(b) Institutions set up for 'charitable purposes' as defined in Section 2 (15) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 are covered under the category of charitable institutes.

(c) The advancement of any object beneficial to the public or a section of public as distinguished from an individual or group of individuals is an object of general public utility. Therefore, promotion of sports and games is considered to be a charitable purpose within the meaning of Section 2(15) of the Income Tax Act, 1961. As BCCI is engaged in promotion of cricket in India, therefore, BCCI has been registered under Section 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961.

World Bank assistance for drinking water projects in Tamil Nadu

3237. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take World Bank assistance for drinking water projects especially in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the latest position of these projects as on today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India has proposed to take World Bank assistance for Drinking Water Supply projects in the rural areas of the States of Uttaranchal, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. These projects are in various stages of preparation and are likely to be negotiated during the current financial year.

Aid to sick small-scale industries in Andhra Pradesh

t3238. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scheduled and nationalised banks are providing financial aid to sick small scale industries in Andhra Pradesh for their revival;

(b) if so, the details of the financial aids provided by these banks to such small scale industrial units during the last three years including the current year, district-wise; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the details of the efforts made/being made by the Central Government for the revival of sick small scale industrial units in various States, particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) The Public Sector Banks do not give direct financial aid to sick small scale industries.

(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued detailed guidelines to banks for detection of sickness at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick SSI units identified as potentially viable. RBI has also given broad parameters for grant of relief and concessions for revival of potentially viable sick SSI units such as interest on Working Capital and Working Capital Term Loan may be charged at 1.5% below the prevailing fixed/prime lending rate and concessions upto 2% (not more than 3% in the case of tiny/decentralized sector units) below the document rate on Term Loan may be given. Apart from this, Banks have been given freedom for extension of relief/concession even beyond the parameters, in cases where it is considered absolutely necessary. Besids above, the Debt Restructuring Mechanism and One Time Settlement Scheme have also been formulated.

Decline in deposits in Public Provident Fund

3239. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deposits in the Public Provident Fund accounts in the national capita! have shown a decline during 2005-06;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the actual deposits in the Fund for the fiscal as compared to those for the earlier two years *i.e.* 2003-04 and 2004-05;

(c) whether, in view fo the above position, Government propose to increase the limit of maximum deposit under the Fund from the existing Rs. 70,000 to one lakh; and

(d) if so, by when a decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) The gross collections in Post Offices under the Public Provident Fund (PPF) Scheme in the